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**From:** <lattema@houston.rr.com>  
**To:** <wvogl@samhsa.gov>  
**Date:** 7/9/04 4:50PM  
**Subject:** Revised Mandatory Guidelines FR DOCKET 04-7984

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a 54-year-old professional with one graduate degree and currently working on a second. I have NEVER used illegal/recreational drugs. Recently, due to a move to attend a graduate school I was denied employment because of an inability to provide a urine specimen. At the time, I procured, at my own expense, a blood test that was negative but was treated poorly by my potential employer who withdrew the offer of employment. Somehow, the issue has become not "Do you drugs?" but "Can you urinate on demand?" My inability to urinate under stress is a lifelong problem and I am concerned for my future employment when I finish this program. Surely, it is not the intent of the policy to keep people with paruresis unemployed. The unintended consequences of the existing policy need your attention. Please fix this unjust situation so that people like myself can compete in the job market.

I would request that you address the need to distinguish between the inability to urinate and the refusal to urinate, as a fair number of people suffer from paruresis (the inability to urinate under pressure). In addition, I would request that you make it MANDATORY that employers offer alternative testing (blood, hair, sweat or saliva) to those who request them. Thank you.

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